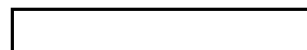


TOP SECRET

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10 January 1956



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DIA and DOS review(s) completed.



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2. NEW JORDANIAN CABINET



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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION



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2. NEW JORDANIAN CABINET

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The composition of the new Jordanian cabinet appointed on 8 January makes Jordanian adherence to the Baghdad pact even more unlikely. Prime Minister Samir al-Rifai has publicly stated that Jordan will not adhere to the pact, and the new foreign minister, Hussain al-Khalidi, is an anti-British nationalist and reportedly has favored Jordan's alliance with the Egyptian-Syrian-Saudi Arabian axis.

While the make-up of the new cabinet should appease the antipact elements who sparked the rioting, other associated elements, including the Communists, may seek to continue demonstrations with a view to obtaining a renewal of the promise of new elections.

The American embassy in Amman believes that a test is approaching as to whether moderate politicians and the Arab Legion can control the country or whether extremists will take over. The embassy believes that the extremists will not succeed in the near future, but that disorders will continue. Local British officials, however, are alarmed to the extent that they are considering evacuation to the British-controlled air base outside Amman.

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 9 January)

Nothing of significance to report.